

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

## Happy Birthday DR-CAFTA!

*This week is the 3 year anniversary of House passage of the Dominican Republic – Central America Free Trade Agreement*

Dear Colleague:

### **DR-CAFTA has been a success!**

In the same way that 'Chicken Little' warned that the sky was falling, 'Chicken Little' opponents of trade told us we would face dire consequences for passage of the DR-CAFTA trade agreement. As noted below, the sky hasn't fallen, and DR-CAFTA has been a winner for the United States and our partners!

'Chicken Little' trade opponents said it would be disaster for the United States. Wrong!

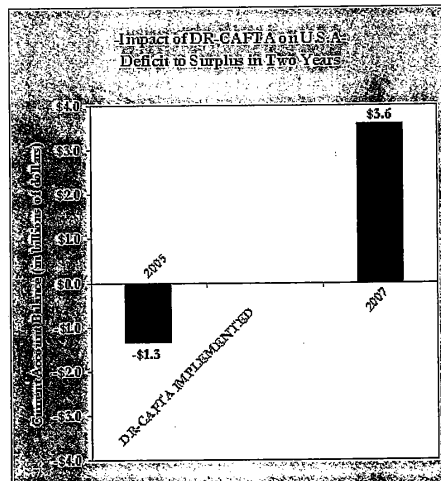
### **U.S. Exports are up a whopping 33% between 2005 and 2007**

'Chicken Little' trade opponents said our trade deficit would swell. Wrong!

In 2005, we imported \$1.2 billion more from these countries than we exported.

In 2007, we exported \$3.6 billion more than we imported.

**That's a positive 392% increase in our trade balance since 2005!**



'Chicken Little' trade opponents said it was bad for U.S. manufacturing. Wrong!

**Electrical Equipment and Machinery exports are up \$268 million, 28%**

**Reactors, boilers, and mechanical appliances are up \$388 million, 49%**

**Cotton Yarn and Fabrics exports are up \$63 million, 16%**

'Chicken Little' trade opponents didn't believe U.S. farmers needed the FTA. Wrong!

**Wheat and Corn exports are up \$178 million, 48%**


**But what about Central America and the Dominican Republic?**

'Chicken Little' trade opponents said it would devastate these countries. Wrong!

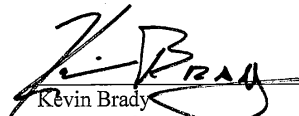
Central America and the D.R. were able to maintain their preferences and make them permanent. That certainty has meant more investment in these countries and an increase of exports to the United States of almost 4%.

**Two way trade including permanent benefits for CAFTA-DR countries is a birthday present the United States and our partners in Latin America should be proud of!**

Sincerely,



Jerry Weller  
Member of Congress



Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress